

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF NEVADA**

SPENCER PIERCE,

Plaintiff,

vs.

HOWARD SKOLNIK, et al.,

Defendants.

3:10-CV-0239-ECR (VPC)

**REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION  
OF U.S. MAGISTRATE JUDGE**

This Report and Recommendation is made to the Honorable Edward C. Reed, Jr., United States District Judge. The action was referred to the undersigned Magistrate Judge pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(B) and LR IB 1-4. Before the court is defendants' motion for summary judgment (#58).<sup>1</sup> Plaintiff opposed the motion (#74), and a reply has not been filed. The court has thoroughly reviewed the record and recommends that defendants' motion for summary judgment (#58) be denied.

Summary judgment is appropriate when, viewing the facts in the light most favorable to the non-moving party, there is no genuine issue of material fact which would preclude summary judgment as a matter of law. Once the moving party has satisfied its burden, it is entitled to summary judgment if the non-moving party fails to present, by affidavits, depositions, answers to interrogatories, or admissions on file, "specific facts showing that there is no genuine issue for trial." *Celotex Corp. v. Catrett*, 477 U.S. 317, 324 (1986); Fed. R. Civ. P. 56(c).

The Court in *Orr v. Bank of America* pointed out that:

A trial court can only consider admissible evidence in ruling on a motion for summary judgment. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 56(e); *Beyene v. Coleman Sec. Servs., Inc.*, 854 F.2d 1179, 1181 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1988). Authentication is a "condition precedent" to admissibility, and this condition is satisfied by "evidence sufficient to support a finding that the matter in question is what its proponent claims." Fed. R. Evid. P. 901(a). We have repeatedly held that unauthenticated documents cannot be considered in a motion for

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<sup>1</sup> A corrected image of the motion was filed at docket #71.

summary judgment. *See Cristobol v. Siegel*, 26 F.3d 1488, 1494 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1994); *Hal Roach Studios, Inc. v. Richard Feiner & Co. Inc.*, 896 F.2d 1542, 1550-51 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1987); *Beyene*, 854 F.2d at 1182; *Canada v. Blain's Helicopters, Inc.*, 831 F.2d 920, 925 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1987); *Hamilton v. Keystone Tankship Corp.*, 539 F.2d 684, 686 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1976).

*Orr v. Bank of America, NT & SA*, 285 F.3d 764 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2002).

Here, defendants submitted an extensive list of exhibits along with their motion. These exhibits contain evidence such as progress notes, physicians' orders, medication sheets, and medical kites which are referred to by the defendants throughout their motion. To date, the court has not received authentication of any document attached to the motion. Moreover, the defendants refer to the declaration of Karen Walsh which is also not attached to their motion.

Therefore, it is recommended that the defendants' motion for summary judgment be denied for failure to submit admissible evidence.

The parties are advised:

1. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(c) and Rule IB 3-2 of the Local Rules of Practice, the parties may file specific written objections to this Report and Recommendation within fourteen days of receipt. These objections should be entitled "Objections to Magistrate Judge's Report and Recommendation" and should be accompanied by points and authorities for consideration by the District Court.

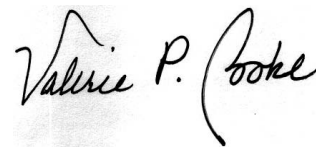
2. This Report and Recommendation is not an appealable order and any notice of appeal pursuant to Fed. R. App. P. 4(a)(1) should not be filed until entry of the District Court's judgment.

#### RECOMMENDATION

**IT IS THEREFORE RECOMMENDED** that defendants' summary judgment motion (#58) be **DENIED**.

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

DATED: November 30, 2011.



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UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE